



Southern  
Ontario  
Library  
Service

## SIGNAL online

### Archives

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The introductory page for the Southern Ontario Library Service is [www.sols.org](http://www.sols.org). From that page, you can move to any other pages created by staff at the Southern Ontario Library Service, as well as to links to resources and professional information.

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### **1. DELIVERY SERVICE – *Service around November 11<sup>th</sup>***

SOLS delivery service will be operating on Friday, November 10 and Monday, November 13, 2006. The SOLS drivers need to know if your library will be closed on either day to observe Remembrance Day. Each library on a SOLS courier route was asked to let the drivers know whether the library would be open on Friday or Monday or whether they would be closed for the Remembrance Day holiday.

The SOLS offices as well as the delivery service do close over the Christmas holidays but more information will be forthcoming around the first of December.

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### **2. KNOWLEDGE ONTARIO – *Pilot training sessions to be held November 9 & 10***

In late September, the Ministry of Culture and the Management Group of Knowledge Ontario announced that negotiations have been successfully completed to supply all publicly funded libraries in the Province of Ontario with a

core suite of digital products. The resources and materials in these databases go beyond what is available on the Internet by offering full text of newspapers, magazines and books. Access to these databases will be available to Ontarians at home, work, or school.

The databases roll out across the province beginning in January 2007. Users authenticated on a library system through the web will have access to the range of information to be found in the databases. There is a preview version of the databases available from Thomson Gale (through Knowledge Ontario), at <http://access.gale.com/ontario/>. In addition to all the databases listed at this site, Knowledge Ontario has also licensed Canadian Reference Centre from Ebsco.

Knowledge Ontario has now announced its first database "pilot" training sessions for the Thomson Gale suite of electronic resources. The Hamilton Public Library has offered to host these multi-sector training sessions. They will be held Thursday, November 9 and Friday, November 10 at the new Training Centre located at the Central Library of the Hamilton Public Library (2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Plaza Level, 55 York Blvd, 905 546-3200). These sessions will be open to library staff from public, school, college, university, government librarians in the Hamilton, Niagara, Haldimand, Norfolk, Waterloo, Wellington, Halton, Oakville, Brantford and Brant county areas. A map to the library can be found at the following link.

[http://map.hamilton.ca/mapit/MapIT\\_HGIS/MapIT.aspx?District=Hamilton&StNumber=55&StName=York&Direction=&Suffix=Blvd&label=Central%20Library](http://map.hamilton.ca/mapit/MapIT_HGIS/MapIT.aspx?District=Hamilton&StNumber=55&StName=York&Direction=&Suffix=Blvd&label=Central%20Library)

There will be four separate sessions for this pilot training:

Session A. Thursday, November 9, 2006 from 9 am to 12 noon

Session B. Thursday, November 9, 2006 from 1pm to 4 pm

Session C. Friday, November 10, 2006 from 9 am to 12 noon

Session D. Friday, November 10, 2006 from 1pm to 4 pm

To register, please go to: <http://www.accessola.com/knowledgeontario/resourcesontario/training.html>. If you have any questions please e-mail [info@knowledgeontario.ca](mailto:info@knowledgeontario.ca) or call and leave a message at 647-288-0276.

It is hoped that following these training sessions, all participating libraries will have access to the databases for their institutions. **Please note that live training and web sessions for libraries across southern Ontario will be organized by the Southern Ontario Library Service in the New Year.**

### **3. COOL – Consortium of ontario libraries**

**a) COOL will continue to offer products** – The Knowledge Ontario project is a great program which will provide free access to a series of databases and products from Thomson Gale and Ebsco. COOL will continue to offer consortium purchasing for other electronic products and services. Those who are currently subscribing to Thomson Gale or the Ebsco database will not have their COOL subscriptions renewed at January 1, 2007. Subscriptions for other products and services will continue to be announced and continue to be available to any library who wishes to participate. One example is the Osprey Newspaper offer described here.

**b) Osprey Newspapers through CEDROM-SNI – Free trial access extended to October 31st**

This information was also relayed through the COOL listserv and SOLSCEO listserv earlier. CEDROM-SNI has secured an exclusive contract with the Osprey publishers until 2010 for 28 newspapers from the Osprey publishers in Ontario. This would include the dailies, such as *Barrie Examiner*, *Belleville Intelligencer*, *Brantford Expositor*, *Chatham Daily News*, *Cobourg Daily Star*, *Cornwall Standard-Freeholder*, *Kingston Whig-Standard*, *Lindsay Daily Post*, *Niagara Falls Review*, *Orillia Packet & Times*, *Owen Sound Sun Times*, *Pembroke Daily Observer*, *Peterborough Examiner*, *Port Hope Evening Guide*, *Sarnia Observer*, *St. Catharines Standard* and *Welland Tribune*. This also affects several weeklies, such as *Colborne Chronicle*, *Collingwood Enterprise-Bulletin*, *Dunnville Chronicle*, *Midland Free Press* and *Northumberland Weekly*. The full-text of all news articles from these newspapers are updated daily in our online service. Users can quickly and easily search and view articles from today's news and archives dating back to 1985 using simple Boolean search terms.

As a result, these papers will no longer be available through Proquest. To ensure a smooth transition for current Proquest customers or give you immediate access to these important publications, CEDROM-SNI is offering libraries **free trial access, until the end of October**, to those Osprey Media Group titles and until the end of November for those who indicate an interest in subscribing. Free electronic access will be provided through the Newscan.com Virtual News Library at <http://www.library.newscan.com/ontario>

All interested institutions must contact Brenda Lewis at [blewis@sols.org](mailto:blewis@sols.org) or 800-387-5765, ext. 5130, to obtain a Virtual News Library proposal. Subscriptions can be for a 12 or 18 month period, and discounts are available for libraries selecting bundles ranging from a 5 % discount off listed Bundle pricing to a 20% discount off. Minimum contract value is in the area of \$275 per year. The price for each bundle and each individual source includes a license for 10 simultaneous sessions.

#### **4. INFO DATABASE – Process to begin in early November**

As part of the VDX interlibrary loan system, there are several ways to access the bibliographic records. A number of libraries are connected to the system by Z39.50 but the bibliographic records for quite a few public libraries continue to be part of the INFO Union Catalogue. This is an annual compilation of records. For those libraries that usually submit their records to SOLS for the INFO catalogue, or libraries with new databases who wish to submit for the first time, please be aware that the submission process for the next INFO Union Catalogue will commence a few weeks later than usual this year due to contract negotiations with the vendor. The process will be initiated shortly and will include announcements and a call for submissions.

For more information on the INFO Union Catalogue, you can call the SOLS HelpDesk at 1-800-387-5765, extension 4, or by e-mail to [helpdesk@sols.org](mailto:helpdesk@sols.org).

#### **5. FUNDING OPPORTUNITY – Ontario Trillium Foundation- Next deadlines are Nov 1, 2006 and March 1, 2007**

Under the OTF community program, applications for grants for municipal libraries serving small communities (populations of 20,000 or less) must be submitted through the municipality. Applications for grants for **county libraries** serving small municipalities (populations of 20,000 or less) must be submitted through the County Library Board. Applications for grants for **First Nation libraries** must be submitted through the First Nation's Band Council. A copy of the application process is posted on the Foundation's website at <http://www.trilliumfoundation.org/OTF-English/new/index.htm>. There is also a link to the Trillium website from the main SOLS page at [www.sols.org](http://www.sols.org). The remaining deadline for the 2006 round of applications is November 1<sup>st</sup> – at 5:00 pm on the deadline date. The grant will continue in 2007 with the first deadline being March 1, 2007.

#### **6. SOLS TRAINING WORKSHOPS – Workshops still available**

##### **a) Workshop information**

This fall, SOLS is providing a variety of workshop topics, and information about the workshops is posted in the 'Training' section of the SOLS website at <http://www.sols.org/librarydev/training/clinicsworkshops/index.htm>.

There is still one remaining chance to participate in **Workshop 2 - The Fun and Facts of Early Literacy: Communicating with Parents through Storytime**. This is the workshop that is based on The Every Child Ready to Read @ your library® program, an early literacy initiative from the Public Library Association and Association of Library Service to Children of the American Library Association. It is a full-day workshop that includes early literacy research, examples of the development of each of the six early literacy skills for newborns to five-year-olds, techniques for planning storytimes that reach adults and children, and specific ideas for doing so. Saroj Ghoshal is the workshop leader for this session. She is co-author of **Early Literacy Storytimes @ your library: Partnering with Caregivers for Success**, published by ALA Editions in 2005. This book applies the information from the Every Child Ready to Read @ your library workshops to the storytime setting.

The added **third session** will be held on Tuesday, December 5, 2006 from 9:30am to 4:30pm at Oakville Public Library, Central Library.

We have also added a French language workshop on time management called "Apprivoiser Le Temps : gestion efficace du temps". This is a two-part workshop that is being presented at the Bibliothèque publique d'Ottawa, succursale d'Orléans. (**Première Partie** : lundi, le 13 novembre 2006, 10 h à 13 h)

**Deuxième Partie** : lundi, le 27 novembre 2006, 10 h à 13 h) The workshop is now listed on the SOLS training page, as Atelier # 9, but for further information on this workshop, please contact Louise Godbout-Legault, Coordinator of French Language Services for SOLS at 1-866-345-2358 or by e-mail to

The **other** remaining Fall 2006 workshops are (which have already been advertised):

**Workshop 3 - Innovative Programming for Toddlers, Preschoolers and Families - Spotlight on YOU:**

***Storyteller, Entertainer, Facilitator***

The one remaining workshop date is St. Catharines Public Library, Central – Thursday, November 2, 2006 from 10am to 3:30pm

***Workshop 4 - Reader's Advisory on Romance***

This is a reader's advisory and collection development workshop on Romance Fiction, presented by the always popular Sharron Smith, the Manager of Readers Advisory Services at the Kitchener Public Library. The dates and locations for Workshop #4 will be:

- Ottawa Public Library, Greenboro branch (**new location**) – Friday, November 3, 2006 from 10am to 1pm
- London Public Library, Masonville branch – Thursday, November 9, 2006 from 10am to 1pm (**FULL**)
- Barrie Public Library – Friday, November 17, 2006 from 1pm to 4pm (**FULL**)
- Burlington Public Library, Central – Monday, November 20, 2006 from 10am to 1pm

***Workshop 5 - Effective Volunteer Recruitment and Retention: Find them and Keep them!***

This half-day workshop will explore the recent trends in volunteering in Canada and will take a look at who volunteers and why, so positions and programs can be developed that will attract the right volunteers. The workshop will look at effective recruitment strategies and offer ideas on management systems and supervision for your program. The presenter for the workshop is Rob Lavery.

The dates and locations for Workshop #5 will be:

- Arnprior Public Library – Monday, November 6, 2006 from 9:30am to 12:30pm
- Belleville Public Library – Tuesday, November 7, 2006 from 9:30am to 12:30pm
- Barrie Public Library – Wednesday, November 8, 2006 from 1pm to 4pm
- Stratford Public Library – Monday, November 13, 2006 from 1pm to 4pm
- Lincoln Public Library, Vineland branch – Tuesday, November 14, 2006 from 9:30am to 12:30pm

***Workshop 6 - Internet Safety and the Library***

The London Public Library has launched an Internet Awareness Project (IAP) and the team's mission is "to develop and implement an integrated strategy and plan to educate key target audiences about media and internet safety ..." London staff would like to share the results of this project with the public library community in a workshop environment. This workshop will be held at the Central Library of London Public Library on Thursday, November 23, 2006 from 10am to 4pm.

***Workshop 7 - AccessABILITY 101: Delivering Top-Notch Services and Supports to Patrons with Disabilities***

The two remaining dates for this workshop are:

- Aurora Public Library – Thursday, November 2, 2006 from 1pm to 4pm
- Belleville Public Library – Thursday, November 16, 2006 from 1pm to 4pm

***Workshop 8 – French Graphic Novels/ Bandes Dessinées (NEW, not included in print handout)***

In the morning, Olivier Charbonneau of Concordia University, will make a presentation, in English, on french language graphic novels, or bandes dessinées. The number of published works, as well as sales, has confirmed the robust popularity of the "9th art". This presentation aims to introduce the world of 'bandes dessinées' and propose strategies to develop meaningful collections. In the afternoon, there will be given a presentation on bandes dessinées by La Librairie Monet, a Montreal book vendor.

The dates and locations for Workshop #8 will be:

- Toronto Public Library, Fairview branch - Thursday, November 30, 2006 from 10am to 3pm
- London Public Library, Westmount branch – Friday, December 1, 2006 from 10am to 3pm

**b) Registration information**

From time to time, we do get asked about availability of a workshop. If you read about a SOLS workshop that interests you, to avoid disappointment, please register as soon as possible, preferable using one of these three methods:

- by email to [training@sols.org](mailto:training@sols.org)
- by using the electronic registration forms on our training website at <http://www.sols.org/librarydev/training/clinicsworkshops/index.htm>.
- or by calling toll-free to 1-866-303-2695.

Please remember that to reduce administrative work for both SOLS and client libraries, we are using the new payment process for workshop fees. There is no need to send a separate cheque for each workshop registration as libraries will be invoiced twice per year in June and December for all registrants. Invoices may be paid by cheque, Visa, Mastercard or American Express. Individuals who are not reimbursed by their libraries may still bring a personal cheque to the workshop. We would appreciate it if this change in payment policy is communicated, as appropriate, within your library system.

**7. EXCEL – Winter semester registration begins November 1, 2006**

The registration forms for the Winter semester of Excel will be available on November 1, 2006. Further information on the Excel program is posted at <http://www.sols.org/librarydev/training/excel/about.htm>

**8. LIBRARY COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

SOLS provides an opportunity for library staff members to meet and discuss issues of common interest. This fall, the clinic connected to the Library Committee meetings will focus on using electronic information sources. There will also be a general discussion regarding the announcement from Knowledge Ontario to supply all publicly funded libraries in the Province of Ontario with a core suite of digital products supplied by Thomson Gale, as well as the Canadian Reference Centre from Ebsco.

Meeting agendas are now posted on the SOLS website at <http://www.sols.org/librarydev/networking/librarycommittee/index.htm>. The remaining Library Committees will be held as follows:

- Monday, October 30, 2006 - Meeting 10am to noon, Clinic 1pm to 3pm- Saugeen area libraries at the Hanover Public Library
- Monday, October 30, 2006 - Meeting 10am to 12:30pm, Clinic 1:30pm to 3:30pm- Hastings-Northumberland-Prince Edward area libraries at the new Belleville Public Library
- Lundi, le 30 octobre 2006- Regular meeting of the Prescott-Russell area libraries (Comité des services en français)
- Wednesday, November 1, 2006 - Meeting 10am to noon, Clinic 1pm to 3pm- Simcoe-Muskoka area libraries at the Springwater Public Library - Elmvale Branch

**9. FIRST NATION FALL GATHERING**

The Fall 2006 First Nation Fall Gathering will be held on Thursday, November 9, 2006 [afternoon] and Friday, November 10, 2006 [morning]. The location is The Bear's Inn, Ohsweken. The agenda will be posted on the SOLS website shortly.

**10. CLUB AMICK INITIATIVE – 1<sup>st</sup> distribution has been made**

Club Amick, an initiative of Lieutenant Governor James Bartleman's, promotes literacy and the love of books among native children in northern Ontario. This month, the very first distribution of books for children, in 27 First Nations

communities in northern Ontario, were shipped from the Library Services Centre in Kitchener. Each child in these communities will receive a new book that relates to the theme of family. The titles represent the best of Canadian children's literature and were selected by the consultants from OLS-North and SOLS. Over 40 titles were selected and over 3,000 books purchased for children in kindergarten to grade 5. In addition to the books, the children receive a **Club Amick newsletter** with games, poems and short items about books. The selection and ordering of titles for the second distribution of books is completed. These books, with a winter theme, will be distributed in January.

## 11. TD Summer Reading program 2007

The **theme** for the summer 2007 is "Lost Worlds / Civilisations disparues". The concept includes

- Archaeology (digs, hieroglyphs, etc.)
- Adventures and expeditions (Indiana Jones, Carmen Sandiego, etc.)
- Time travel
- Hidden treasures & Pirates
- Lost civilizations on Earth, buried cities and lost tribes/empires - Easter Island, Alexandria, Aztek, Vikings, Pharaohs/the Great Pyramids, Toltec warriors, etc.
- Tales & Mythology - Atlantis, Gods and Goddesses
- Mysterious civilizations, enigmas, monoliths - <http://www.crystalinks.com/ancient.html>

The **illustrator** for the 2007 program has now been chosen. Joe Weissman, from Millbrook, Ontario, will illustrate the program materials. His website can be found at <http://www.joeweissmann.com/>

The **registration form** for 2007 program will be posted on the SOLS website in early December. In early spring, we do hope to organize some training sessions for the 2007 program. If anyone has any ideas on the format or timing that would work for them with respect to training, please contact [summerreading@sols.org](mailto:summerreading@sols.org)

## 12. ONTARIO PUBLIC LIBRARY WEEK AND "TELLING OUR STORIES"

During Public Library Week, the Federation of Ontario Public Libraries (FOPL) launched *Telling Our Stories*, a province-wide contest that will highlight and celebrate the positive impact of public libraries on the lives of residents of Ontario. From October 1<sup>st</sup> to November 30, 2006, Ontario residents are invited to share their personal stories of how public libraries have made a difference to them or their families.

The top three winning stories will be awarded cash prizes (First prize \$1,500; Second prize \$1,000; Third prize \$500). In addition, a donation of \$250 will be made in the name of the top three winners and the top 10 runners-up to the Ontario public libraries of their choice. Stories will be voted on by the public online and a short list will be presented to a panel of distinguished judges for their final decision.

To ensure high participation by Ontario residents, both for story submissions and public voting for their favourite stories, the Federation of Ontario Public Libraries has partnered with Ontario's educational media organization, TVO. TVO will promote the contest on air and encourage Ontarians to participate at [www.tvo.org/tellingourstories](http://www.tvo.org/tellingourstories). Ontario's French-language educational broadcaster, TFO, is also promoting the contest on air and online. French language submissions can be made at [www.tfo.org/raccontonsnoshistoires](http://www.tfo.org/raccontonsnoshistoires).

During the week of October 2<sup>nd</sup>, all Ontario library CEOs received shipments with everything needed to participate in *Telling Our Stories*, including bookmarks and posters for the library system and a copy of the *Telling Our Stories* Guidebook (one copy per branch), which is your library's reference guide about the contest.

If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Yvonne Attard, *Telling Our Stories* Communications, Federation of Ontario Public Libraries at 416 909 7251 or by e-mail to [yattard@cogeco.ca](mailto:yattard@cogeco.ca)

## 13. SOLS BOARD SUMMARY - September 2006

**Release of Grant Thornton Report** - The Ministry of Culture engaged Grant Thornton to conduct a financial review of SOLS and OLS-North last fall. Findings and recommendations were submitted to the Ministry and the final report was released in confidence to the Board in February. The public version of the report was released in July and is available on request. SOLS was very pleased with the results of the review and the Ministry's positive response to the recommendations.

**Library Program Review** - The Deputy Minister of Culture announced the Library Program Review at the OLA

conference in February. The project objective is "To undertake a broad review of the Province's public library sector support, and to develop a framework for delivery of provincial support, with a view to ensuring that the provincial investment brings the greatest benefit to public libraries and their users, and to establishing the most productive role for the Province in meeting the needs of public libraries."

The Ministry hired Avant Strategic Communications to develop the vision and framework for Provincial support of public libraries. Input was sought through a think tank, focus groups and interviews in late August and early September. Written submissions were also encouraged – SOLS' submission is posted on our website. The Deputy Minister has called a meeting of library leaders on October 13 to discuss the results of the consultation stage and provide comments. SOLS Chair and CEO will be participating.

**Assurance of Funding – Provincial Government** - The Board has been considering a new round of MPP visits and discussed how they might proceed. As a first step, the Board decided to approach candidates following All Candidates Meetings to make them aware of SOLS and our services and give them a copy of our brochure, "Brief Listing of SOLS Services".

**Assurance of Funding – Fundraising** - In April, SOLS' Board launched its 2006 campaign to solicit individual donations for SOLS' Innovation Fund. The intent of this fund is to allow us to take advantage of new products and services that can be offered to our libraries. For the last two years, the Fund has been used to subsidize library participation in the shared ebook collection. For the first time this year, we included a mail campaign which targeted those who had written in support of SOLS during the budget crisis last year. We also continued with personal requests to existing donors, current and past Board members and others identified by our canvassers. As of the middle of August, over \$7,000 had been raised. SOLS is a registered charity and issues tax receipts for all donations. Donations may be made through Canada Helps by clicking "Support SOLS" on our website.

**Linkage Development – Reception during OLA Conference** - SOLS plans to host a reception at the OLA conference this year and looks forward to welcoming trustees and staff from our client libraries. Details will be provided once time and location are confirmed.

**Annual Report 2005/06** - SOLS' Annual Report was distributed to libraries this summer and posted on SOLS website. Copies will also be available at Trustee Council meetings.

**Operations Planning Quarterly Update** - An update on SOLS' services is available at [www.sols.org](http://www.sols.org).

**Next Board Meeting** - The next meeting of SOLS' Board is scheduled for Saturday, February 10, 2007 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at SOLS' office in Toronto.

#### 14. SOLS CEO LISTSERV

SOLS maintains a list of all the e-mail addresses for SOLS CEOs. It is this list that is used to distribute *Signal*. Several times through the month, you may also receive other messages from SOLS. This month, the following messages were sent:

- On October 2, 13, 17, 19 and 23<sup>rd</sup>, Sue Walls distributed messages regarding the "Telling our stories" program. More information on the program is included in this issue of *Signal*.
- On October 16, Brenda Lewis sent a message about the Osprey Newspaper offer. Again, more information is included in this issue of *Signal*.

If you did not receive these messages, and would like further information, please contact the SOLS HelpDesk at 1-800-387-5765, ext. 4, or by e-mail to [helpdesk@sols.org](mailto:helpdesk@sols.org).

All issues of SIGNAL can be viewed online at <http://www.sols.org/publications/signal/index.htm>. However, if anyone would like to receive the e-mail version of this newsletter, please send a message to [signal@sols.org](mailto:signal@sols.org). You can reach the editor of SIGNAL at [signal@sols.org](mailto:signal@sols.org) or by telephone at 1-866-380-9767.

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